

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 43-81 have been added. No new matter has been added.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-11, 13-27, 29-36, and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over various combinations of U.S. Pat. No. 4,932,050 (“Davidson”) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,320,534 (“Goss”), U.S. Pat. No. 6,389,117 (“Gross”) and U.S. Pat. No. 5,603,054 (“Theimer”), and claims 12, 28, and 37-41 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-42 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer rendering the rejections moot. New claims 43-81 have been added. New claims 43-81 are allowable over the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer.

Claims 43-60 are Allowable

The cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose at least one element of claim 43. For example, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer do not disclose or suggest a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates via a first network to a communication module and the second proximity sensor communicates via a second network to the communication module to determine proximity zone data of a subscriber, as in claim 43.

In contrast to claim 43, Davidson discloses a switching system that uses proximity status information to facilitate telecommunication features. *Davidson*, Abstract. The proximity status information is sent over the same telephone lines that are used to provide telecommunication services. *Davidson*, Abstract. Accordingly, Davidson discloses a single network to communication proximity status information, and not a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates via a first network to a communication module and the second proximity sensor communicates

via a second network to the communication module to determine proximity zone data of a subscriber, as in claim 43.

In contrast to claim 43, Goss discloses a location-based personal telephone routing system responsive to a subscriber's location. *Goss*, Abstract. The system of Goss interrogates a location determining device after receiving a call to direct the call to the subscriber. *Goss*, Abstract. Goss discloses several types of location determining devices, such as a global positioning device (*Goss*, FIG. 2) and a local positioning device (*Goss*, FIG. 3). However, Goss does not disclose a system that includes a plurality of proximity sensors, where the first proximity sensor communicates via a first network to a communication module and the second proximity sensor communicates via a second network to the communication module to determine proximity zone data of a subscriber, as in claim 43.

In contrast to claim 43, Gross discloses a system to provide access to multiple telecommunications services via a single telephone number. *Gross*, Abstract. Call routing within the system of Gross is based on programming provided by the subscriber. *Gross*, col. 4, lines 9-12. The cited portions of Gross do not disclose proximity sensors or proximity zones. Further, the cited portions of Gross do not disclose a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates via a first network to a communication module and the second proximity sensor communicates via a second network to the communication module to determine proximity zone data of a subscriber, as in claim 43.

In contrast to claim 43, Theimer disclose a system for electronically monitoring proximity information and implementing prespecified controls based on the proximity information. *Theimer*, Abstract. The system of Theimer can include a "ubiquitous computing" system. *Theimer*, col. 5, lines 51-55. While Theimer discloses that the "ubiquitous computing" system may include many components, the cited portions of Theimer do not disclose a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates via a first network to a communication module and the second

proximity sensor communicates via a second network to the communication module to determine proximity zone data of a subscriber, as in claim 43.

Hence, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose at least one element of claim 43. Accordingly, claim 43 is allowable.

Additionally, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose a call direction control system that redirects call directed to a primary destination address of the subscriber to a first selected address when the proximity zone data indicates that the subscriber is in the first proximity zone, where the first selected address is a telephone number of a device in the first proximity zone; to a second selected address when the proximity zone data indicates that the subscriber is in the second proximity zone, where the second selected address is an email address associate with the second proximity zone; and to a third selected address when each of the plurality of proximity zone sensors indicates that the proximity indicator is not detected within the proximity zone associated with the respective proximity sensor, wherein the third selected address is associated with a mobile communication device of the subscriber, as in claim 43. Accordingly, claim 43 is allowable for at least this additional reason.

Claims 44-60 depend from claim 43, which Applicants have shown to be allowable. Hence, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose at least one element of each of claims 44-60. Accordingly, claims 44-60 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence from claim 43.

Claims 61-81 are Allowable

The cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose at least one element of claim 61. For example, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer do not disclose or suggest a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates first proximity information via a first network and the second proximity sensor communicates second proximity information via a second network, as in claim 61.

In contrast to claim 61, Davidson discloses a switching system that uses proximity status information to facilitate telecommunication features. *Davidson*, Abstract. The proximity status information is sent over the same telephone lines that are used to provide telecommunication services. *Davidson*, Abstract. Accordingly, Davidson discloses a single network to communication proximity status information, and not a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates first proximity information via a first network and the second proximity sensor communicates second proximity information via a second network, as in claim 61.

In contrast to claim 61, Goss discloses a location-based personal telephone routing system responsive to a subscriber's location. *Goss*, Abstract. The system of Goss interrogates a location determining device after receiving a call to direct the call to the subscriber. *Goss*, Abstract. Goss discloses several types of location determining devices, such as a global positioning device (*Goss*, FIG. 2) and a local positioning device (*Goss*, FIG. 3). However, Goss does not disclose a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates first proximity information via a first network and the second proximity sensor communicates second proximity information via a second network, as in claim 61.

In contrast to claim 61, Gross discloses a system to provide access to multiple telecommunications services via a single telephone number. *Gross*, Abstract. Call routing within the system of Gross is based on programming provided by the subscriber. *Gross*, col. 4, lines 9-12. The cited portions of Gross do not disclose proximity sensors or proximity zones. Further, the cited portions of Gross do not disclose a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates first proximity information via a first network and the second proximity sensor communicates second proximity information via a second network, as in claim 61.

In contrast to claim 61, Theimer disclose a system for electronically monitoring proximity information and implementing prespecified controls based on the proximity information. *Theimer*, Abstract. The system of Theimer can include a “ubiquitous computing” system. *Theimer*, col. 5, lines 51-55. While Theimer discloses that the “ubiquitous computing” system may include many components, the cited portions of Theimer do not disclose a plurality of proximity sensors including at least a first proximity sensor associated with a first proximity zone and a second proximity sensor associated with a second proximity zone, where the first proximity sensor communicates first proximity information via a first network and the second proximity sensor communicates second proximity information via a second network, as in claim 61.

Hence, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose at least one element of claim 61. Accordingly, claim 61 is allowable.

Additionally, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose sending a call redirection message to redirect calls directed to a first communication address of the subscriber, where the call redirection message redirects calls to a second communication address associated with the subscriber when the proximity zone data indicates that the subscriber is in the first proximity zone, to a third communication address associated with the subscriber when the proximity zone data indicates that the subscriber is in the second proximity zone, and a fourth communication address associated with the subscriber when each of the plurality of proximity zone sensors indicates that the proximity indicator is not detected within the proximity zone associated with the proximity sensor, as in claim 61. Accordingly, claim 61 is allowable for at least this additional reason.

Claims 62-81 depend from claim 61, which Applicants have shown to be allowable. Hence, the cited portions of Davidson, Goss, Gross and Theimer fail to disclose at least one element of each of claims 62-81. Accordingly, claims 62-81 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence from claim 61.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have pointed out specific features of the claims not disclosed, suggested, or rendered obvious by the cited portions of the references applied in the Final Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the objections and rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the pending claims.

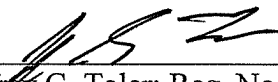
Any changes to the claims in this response that have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



Jeffrey G. Toler; Reg. No. 38,342
Attorney for Applicants
TOLER LAW GROUP
8500 Bluffstone Cove, Suite A201
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 327-5515 (phone)
(512) 327-5575 (fax)